Ionia County, Michigan

Financial Statements

And

Independent Auditor's Report

For the Year ended March 31, 2006

Michigan Department of Treasury
496 (02/06)

Auditing Procedures Report

| | | | 2 of 1968, as | | d P.A. 71 of 1919, | as amended. | | | | | | |
|---|------------------|----------------|----------------------------|--------------------------|--|--------------------------------|----------------------------------|--|----------------------------|---|--|--|
| Local Unit of Government Type | | | | | Local Unit Nam | | | County | | | | |
| | Count | <u> </u> | City | ⊠Twp_ | □Village | Other | ORANGE | TOWNSHIP | | IONIA | | |
| | al Year | | , 2006 | | Opinion Date SEPTEMB | ER 25 20 | 106 | Date Audit Report Submitted to State SEPTEMBER 28, 2006 | | | | |
| | | | | | OEI TEIVIE | | - | OZI TZWOZI CZO, Z | | _ | | |
| We a | | | | | | rantina in Ad | lichicos | | | | | |
| | | | • | | s licensed to pr | | - | sed in the financial stateme | ante includ | ling the notes or in the | | |
| Mana | agem | r am nent l | _etter (repo | ort of com | ments and rec | ommendati | ons). | sed in the imancial stateme | ino, morac | mig the notes, or in the | | |
| | YES | 8 | Check ea | ich applic | able box belo | w. (See in | structions for | further detail.) | | | | |
| 1. | X | | reporting | entity note | es to the financ | cial stateme | ents as neces | sary. | | ments and/or disclosed in the | | |
| 2. | X | | There are (P.A. 27 | no accur of 1980) | nulated deficits or the local un | s in one or i nit has not e | more of this u exceeded its b | init's unreserved fund balar budget for expenditures. | nces/unres | tricted net assets | | |
| 3. | X | | The local | unit is in o | compliance wit | th the Unifo | rm Chart of A | accounts issued by the Dep | artment of | Treasury. | | |
| 4. | × | | The local | unit has a | idopted a budo | get for all re | equired funds. | | | | | |
| 5. | X | | - | _ | | | | ith State statute. | | | | |
| 6. | × | | | | not violated the ssued by the I | | | an order issued under the Division. | Emergenc | y Municipal Loan Act, or | | |
| 7. | X | | The local | unit has r | not been del ind | quent in dis | tributing tax re | evenues that were collected | d for anoth | er taxing unit. | | |
| 8. | X | | The local | unit only l | holds deposits | /investmen | ts that comply | y with statutory requiremen | ts. | | | |
| 9. | X | | The local Audits of | unit has r Local Unit | no illegal or un ts of Governm | authorized ent in Michi | expenditures igan, as revis | that came to our attention ed (see Appendix H of Bull | as defined etin). | in the <i>Bulletin for</i> | | |
| 10. | X | | that have | not been | previously cor | nmunicated | to the Local | ment, which came to our a Audit and Finance Division under separate cover. | ttention du n (LAFD). I | rring the course of our audit f there is such activity that has | | |
| 11. | X | | The local | unit is fre | e of repeated | comments t | from previous | years. | | | | |
| 12. | X | | The audit | opinion is | UNQUALIFIE | ED. | | | | | | |
| 13. | × | | | | complied with (ng principles (C | | r GASB 34 as | s modified by MCGAA State | ement #7 a | and other generally | | |
| 14. | X | | The boar | d or cound | cil approves all | l invoices p | rior to payme | nt as required by charter or | r statute. | | | |
| 15. | X | | To our k r | owledge, | bank reconcili | ations that | were reviewe | d were performed timely. | | | | |
| incl des | uded cripti | in tonion | his or any) of the aut | other aud hority and | horities and co dit report, nor l/or commissio s statement is | do they ol n. | btain a stand | -alone audit, please enclo | daries of the see the na | ne audited entity and is not me(s), address(es), and a | | |
| | | | closed the | | | Enclosed | | ed (enter a brief justification) | | | | |
| | | | tements | 1011047111 | <u></u> | | Not require | as (critical a critical justification) | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| I he | elette | er of | Comments | and Reco | ommendations | | | | | | | |
| | Other (Describe) | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | Accountant (F E TIEJEI | | | | | Telephone Number 616-642-0384 | | | | |
| Stre | et Add | iress | | | | | | City | 1 | Zip | | |
| | | | | | | SARANAC | MI | 48881 | | | | |
| Authorizing CPA Signature Printed Name License Number 1101026843 | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | tai | مرسه | me, | liegem | m, CPA | L | AMMENUE | I IEJEIVIA | 110102 | | | |

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Lawrence Tiejema, PC

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INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

September 25, 2006

The Township Board Orange Township Ionia County, Michigan

I have audited the accompanying financial statements of the governmental activities and the aggregate remaining fund information of Orange Township, Ionia County, Michigan, as of and for the year ended March 31, 2006, which collectively comprise the Township's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Township's management. My responsibility is to express opinions on these financial statements based on my audit.

I conducted my audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in Government Auditing Standards, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Those standards require that I plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating overall financial statement presentation. I believe that my audit provides a reasonable basis for my opinion.

In my opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the governmental activities and the aggregate remaining fund information of Orange Township, as of March 31, 2006, and the respective changes in financial position, and the budgetary comparison for the general fund for the year then ended in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

In accordance with Government Auditing Standards, I have also issued my report dated September 25, 2006, on my consideration of Orange Township's internal control over financial reporting and my tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grant agreements and other matters. The purpose of that report is to describe the scope of my testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with Government Auditing Standards and should be considered in assessing the results of my audit.

The Management's Discussion and Analysis on pages 3 to 9 is not a required part of the basic financial statements but is supplementary information required by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board. I have applied certain limited procedures, which consisted principally of inquiries of management regarding the methods of measurement and presentation of the supplementary information. However, I did not audit the information and express no opinion on it.

My audit was conducted for the purpose of forming opinions on the financial statements that collectively comprise Orange Township's basic financial statements. The governmental schedules have been subjected to auditing procedures applied in the audit of the basic financial statements and, in my opinion, are fairly presented, in all material respects, in relation to the basic financial statements taken as a whole.

Lawrence Tiejema, PC.

September 25, 2006

Management Discussion and Analysis

Orange Township is facing financial challenges related to economic growth without an adequate monetary reserve to build the infrastructure that growth usually requires. However, the Township continues to provide excellent public safety protection, ambulance services, and administrative services. Below is a list of the significant financial events for the year ended March 31, 2006.

Financial Highlights:

- (1) For the year ended March 31, 2006, the Orange Township general fund expended \$9,960 more than the revenue that it collected, leaving fund balance of \$184,082. The remaining net assets represent 14 months of normal yearly township expenditures of \$155,000.
- (2) Orange Township received \$28,277 more in revenues than was projected in the township's original budget. Since revenue sharing had been dropping in previous years, the township board estimated a drop to \$62,800 for the year ending March 31, 2006. However, the township received \$70,240 in state revenue sharing, \$7,440 more than expected. In addition, property tax revenues exceeded the anticipated budget of \$36,700 by \$5,733.
- (3) Road maintenance is a major expense for Orange Township. For the fiscal year just ended, Orange Township spent \$23,497, which consisted of \$11,081 for gravel, \$9,660 for brine, and \$2,756 for brush cutting.
- (4) Berlin and Orange Townships support the Berlin-Orange Fire Department. For fiscal year just ended, Orange Township contributed \$40,000 for fire department operating expenses and over \$11,000 for loan payments on the fire trucks.
- (5) The Township Board has been making plans for the building of a new township hall. In September 2005 the Township Board approved the design/bid/build for a new township hall and hired Architect Chris Briemayer to draw up plans for a fee of \$2,000.
- (6) Orange Township citizens pay a special assessment of \$15 per household for ambulance services. For the year ended March 31, 2006, the Township collected \$5,879 from this assessment and contracted with Life EMS and Portland Ambulance for ambulance services.

Overview of the Financial Statements

This discussion and analysis is intended to serve as an introduction to the Township's basic financial statements. The Township's basic financial statements comprise three components: (1) government-wide financial statements; (2) fund financial statements; and (3) notes to the financial statements. This report also contains other supplementary information in addition to the basic financial statements themselves.

Government-wide financial statements. The government-wide financial statements are designed to provide readers with a broad overview of the Township's finances, in a manner similar to a private-sector business.

The statement of net assets presents information on all the Township's assets and liabilities, with the difference between the two reported as net assets. Over time, increases or decreases in net assets may serve as a useful indicator of whether the financial position of the Township is improving or deteriorating. The statement of activities presents information showing how the government's net assets changed during the most recent fiscal year. All changes in net assets are reported as soon as the underlying event giving rise to the change occurs, regardless of the timing of related cash flows. Thus, revenues and expenses are reported in this statement for some items that will only result in cash flows in future fiscal periods.

Township governments may have activities that are intended to recover all or a significant portion of their costs through user fees and charges. Orange Township has no such activities. All financial resources and expenditures are maintained in the township's governmental funds. The township also has a tax agency fund which collects real and personal property taxes and disburses these tax revenues to the appropriate governmental units including Orange Township's general fund. Through its general fund, Orange Township provides for general government, public safety, public works, planning and zoning, and cemetery. The government-wide financial statements can be found on pages 10-12 of this report.

Fund financial statements. A fund is a grouping of related accounts that is used to maintain control over resources that have been segregated for specific activities or objectives. The Township, like other state and local governments, uses fund accounting to ensure and demonstrate compliance with finance-related legal requirements.

Governmental funds. Governmental funds are used to account for essentially the same functions reported as governmental activities in the government wide-financial statements. However, unlike the government-wide financial statements, governmental fund statements focus on near-term inflows and outflows of spendable resources, as well as on balances of spendable resources available at the end of the fiscal year. Such information may be useful in evaluating a government's near-term financing requirements.

Because the focus of governmental funds is narrower than that of the government-wide financial statements, it is useful to compare the information presented for *governmental funds* with similar information presented for *governmental activities* in the government-wide financial statements. By doing so, readers may better understand the long-term impact of the government's near-term financing decisions. Both the governmental fund balance sheet and the governmental fund statement of revenues, expenditures, and changes in fund balances provide a reconciliation to facilitate this comparison between *governmental funds* and *governmental activities*.

The Township adopts an annual appropriated budget. Budgetary comparison statements or schedules have been provided herein to demonstrate compliance with those budgets. The basic governmental fund financial statements can be found on pages 13-15 of this report.

Fiduciary Funds. Fiduciary funds are used to account for resources held for the benefit of parties outside the government. Fiduciary funds are not reflected in the government-wide financial statements because the resources of those funds are not available to support the Township's own programs. The accounting used for fiduciary funds is much like that used for proprietary funds. Orange Township has one fiduciary fund, the Tax Agency Fund.

The basic fiduciary fund statements for the tax agency fund can be found on page 16 of this report.

Notes to the financial statements. The notes provide additional information that is essential to a full understanding of the data provided in the government-wide and fund statements. The notes to the financial statements can be found on pages 17-28 of this report.

Orange Township's Net Assets

Governmental Activities

| | Year ended |
|------------------------------------|------------------------|
| | March 31, 20 <u>06</u> |
| Current and other assets | 193,660 |
| Capital assets | 140,794 |
| Total assets | 334,454 |
| Long-term liabilities outstanding | |
| Other liabilities | 9,578 |
| Total liabilities | 9,578 |
| Net assets: | |
| Invested in capital assets, net of | |
| related debt | 140,794 |
| Restricted | |
| Unrestricted | 184,082 |
| Total net assets | 324,876 |

Orange Township has cash and investments of \$187,822. Of this amount, \$41,887 is located in certificates of deposit and designated to upgrade the fire equipment of the Berlin-Orange Fire Department. The remaining current assets of the township consist of prepaid expenses and delinquent taxes receivable from the County of Ionia. Orange Township does not have any general fund debt, but it is obligated to make sufficient payments to the Berlin-Orange Fire Department for the servicing of its fire department debt. The liabilities shown above represent materials and labor that the township used before April 1, 2006 and paid after March 31, 2006.

Orange Township's Changes in Net Assets

Governmental Activities

| | Year ended March 31, 2006 |
|-----------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Revenue: | |
| Program revenue: | |
| Charges for services | 6,625 |
| Capital grants and contributions | - |
| General revenue: | |
| Property taxes | 48,282 |
| State Sources | 70,240 |
| Other | 16,975 |
| Total revenue | 142,122 |
| Expenses: | |
| General government | 54,724 |
| Legislative | 5,081 |
| Public safety | 70,956 |
| Public works | 25,334 |
| Planning and Zoning | 7,399 |
| Cemetery | 1,960 |
| Total expenses | 165,454 |
| Increase (decrease) in net assets | (23,332) |
| Net assets - beginning of year | 348,208 |
| Net assets - end of year | 324,876 |

During the year ended March 31, 2006, the revenues of Orange Township were less than its expenses. In past years, the Township had received between \$20,000 and \$23,000 for road right-of-way of fiber optic cable. When the state law changed, the amount shrank to approximately \$3,000 per year. This revenue drop plus a 5-10% drop in revenue sharing revenues have tightened the township's budget. Included in the decrease in net assets shown above is depreciation expense of \$15,430. When this is eliminated, the net loss in cash resources is reduced to \$7,902. The township continues to use a conservative approach to managing expenses to make up for the revenue shortfalls from fiber optic income and state revenue sharing.

Public safety and administration remain the highest items of the operating budget. The wages of the township officers have been rising along with their duties. The Supervisor is spending significantly more time on economic growth issues, the Clerk is spending more time updating the Qualified Voter File and holding elections that now include school districts, and the Treasurer now has two major tax collections – summer and winter.

Orange Township's Capital Assets (net of depreciation)

Governmental Activities

| | Year ended March 31, 2006 |
|------------------|------------------------------|
| Land | 100 |
| Office equipment | 3,170 |
| Fire Building | 3,250 |
| Fire Equipment | 134,274 |
| Total Assets | 140,794 |

Orange Township has an old township hall that was built around the turn of the century. The remaining township assets consist of a 50% share in the assets of the Berlin-Orange Fire Department and the computer technology of the Clerk and Treasurer. The Township purchased a new computer and printer for the Clerk in the fiscal year ended March 31, 2006. During the prior year, the Township had purchased a computer for the Treasurer.

Orange Township - Future Challenges and Resources

Orange Township's board has attempted to manage its resources conservatively. The board had built up a fiscal reserve before the year April 1, 2005 – March 31, 2006 from the right-of-way assessment fees on fiber-optic cable. This reserve was placed in certificates of deposit for the support of new equipment purchased for the Berlin-Orange Township Fire Department.

Orange Township's western border is the M-66 Corridor, the site of tremendous commercial and residential growth. Managing this growth has required the use of township resources during a period of shrinking revenues. The Berlin-Orange Fire Department for which Orange Township is 50% fiscally responsible has seen a significant increase in its service level. Since the Township Board can see a future period of increasing expenses, it is asking the voters to approve a 1.5 mill levy for 3 years in the upcoming November election for the support of the Berlin-Orange Fire Department. The Township is expecting growth along its eastern boundary near Portland City and Township. Conversation has taken place with those governments to initiate joint planning.

If the fire department millage is passed, the increasing property tax revenues of the growing Orange Township commercial sector will assist in keeping revenues in line with expenditures. With the township board's fiscally sound restraint on expenditures, the Township can remain solvent in the future and can maintain an adequate financial reserve for emergencies and contingencies.

STATEMENT OF NET ASSETS

March 31, 2006

| | | ernmental |
|---------------------------------|----|-----------|
| Assets | • | 407.000 |
| Cash and deposits | \$ | 187,822 |
| Receivables | | |
| Due from other funds | | 1,896 |
| Taxes receivable | | 2,970 |
| | | |
| Prepaid expenses | | 972 |
| 0 % 1 | | |
| Capital assets, net of | | 140,794 |
| accumulated depreciation | | 140,794 |
| Total Assets | | 334,454 |
| Liabilities | | |
| Accounts payable | | 9,578 |
| Total Liabilities | | 9,578 |
| Net Assets | | |
| Invested in capital assets, net | | |
| of related debt | | 140,794 |
| Unrestricted net assets | | 184,082 |
| Total net assets | \$ | 324,876 |

STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2006

| | | | rogram evenues | | |
|-----------------------------|------|---------|----------------------|----|---------------------------|
| Functions/ Programs | Expe | nses | arges for Service | N | let (Expense) Revenues |
| Primary government | | | | | |
| Governmental activities: | | | | | |
| General government | \$ | 54,724 | \$ 4,462 | \$ | (50,262) |
| Legislative | | 5,081 | | | (5,081) |
| Public safety | | 70,956 | | | (70,956) |
| Public works | | 25,334 | | | (25,334) |
| Planning and Zoning | | 7,399 | 2,163 | | (5,236) |
| Cemetery | | 1,960 | | | (1,960) |
| Total government activities | \$ | 165,454 | \$ 6,625 | \$ | _(158,829) |

(continued)

STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES (CONCLUDED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2006

| | | overnmental Activities |
|--|-----|-------------------------------------|
| Changes in net assets Net (expense) revenue | \$ | (158,829) |
| General revenues: Property taxes State revenues Investment earnings Other Income | | 48,282 70,240 6,126 10,849 |
| Total general revenues | | 135,497 |
| Change in net assets | | (23,332) |
| Net assets, beginning of year | | 348,208 |
| Net assets, end of year | \$_ | 324,876 |

(concluded)

ORANGE TOWNSHIP BALANCE SHEET GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS MARCH 31, 2006

| ASSETS | | NERAL FUND | | |
|--|--------------|------------------------------|--------|----------------------|
| Cash and deposits Receivables: | \$ | 187,822 | | |
| Due from other funds | | 1,896 | | |
| Taxes receivable | | 2,970 | | |
| Prepaid expenses | | 972 | | |
| TOTAL ASSETS | | 193,660 | | |
| LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCE | | | | |
| LIABILITIES: Accounts payable and accrued expenditures: | | | | |
| Accounts payable | | 9,578 | | |
| TOTAL LIABILITIES | | 9,578 | | |
| FUND BALANCE Designated for fire equipment Undesignated | | 41,887 142,195 184,082 | | |
| TOTAL LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCE | <u>\$</u> | 193,660 | | |
| RECONCILIATION OF FUND GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS T ACTIVITIES ON THE STATE | O NET AS | SETS OF THE G | | |
| Fund balance total governmental fur | nds | | \$ | 184,082 |
| Amounts reported for governmental act are different because: Capital assets used in governmental act and therefore are not reported in the fur | tivities are | | | |
| Add capital assets Deduct accumulated depreciation | | | | 299,826 (159,032) |
| Net assets of governmental activities | | | \$ | <u>3</u> 24,876 |

STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES OF GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2006

| | - | ENERAL FUND | | |
|--|--------------------------|---|----------|----------|
| REVENUES: | | | | |
| Property taxes | \$ | 42,403 | | |
| Special assessment | | 5,879 | | |
| State sources | | 70,240 | | |
| Charges for services | | 6,625 | | |
| Interest | | 6,126 | | |
| Other | | 10,849 | | |
| TOTAL REVENUES | | 142,122 | | |
| EXPENDITURES: | | | | |
| General government | | 56,012 | | |
| Legislative | | 5,081 | | |
| Public safety | | 56,296 | | |
| Public works | | 25,334 | | |
| Planning and zoning | | 7,399 | | |
| Cemetery | | 1,960 | | |
| TOTAL EXPENDITURES | | 152,082 | | |
| REVENUES OVER EXPENDITURES | | (9,960) | | |
| NET CHANGE IN FUND BALANCES | | (9,960) | | |
| FUND BALANCE, BEGINNING OF YEAR | | 194,042 | | |
| FUND BALANCE, END OF YEAR | \$ | 184,082 | | |
| RECONCILIATION OF THE STATEMENT OF BALANCES OF GOVERNMENT FUNDS TO | FREVENUES, THE STATEM | , EXPENDITURES AN IENT OF ACTIVITIES | D CHANGE | IN FUND |
| Net change in fund balances total governme Government funds expense capital outlays in the Statement of Net Assets allocates them of | he current yea | ar while | \$ | (9,960) |
| Add Capital Assets acquired and expen | | | | 2,058 |
| Deduct - depreciation expense | | | | (15,430) |
| Change in net assets of government activities. | | | \$ | (23,332) |

ORANGE TOWNSHIP STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES - BUDGET AND ACTUAL GENERAL FUND

FOR THE YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2006

| | ORIG | BUDGETE! | AMO FINA | | | ACTUAL | WI P | ARIANCE TH FINAL OSITIVE EGATIVE) |
|-----------------------------------|------|-----------|-------------|-----------|----|---------|---------|--|
| DEVENUEO. | | | | | | | | |
| REVENUES: | \$ | 36,700 | \$ | 36,700 | \$ | 42,403 | \$ | 5,703 |
| Property taxes Special assessment | Ψ | 5,500 | Ψ | 5,500 | Ψ | 5,879 | Ψ | 379 |
| State sources | | 62,800 | | 62,800 | | 70,240 | | 7,440 |
| Charges for services | | 5,345 | | 5,345 | | 6,625 | | 1,280 |
| Interest | | 1,500 | | 1,500 | | 6,126 | | 4,626 |
| Other | | 2,000 | | 2,000 | | 10,849 | | 8,849 |
| TOTAL REVENUES | | _113,845 | | 113,845 | | 142,122 | | 28,277 |
| EXPENDITURES | | | | | | | | |
| General government | | 79,459 | | 80,653 | | 56,012 | | 24,641 |
| Legislative | | 6,070 | | 6,156 | | 5,081 | | 1,075 |
| Public safety | | 93,000 | | 93,000 | | 56,296 | | 36,704 |
| Public works | | 44,867 | | 44,867 | | 25,334 | | 19,533 |
| Planning and zoning | | 8,980 | | 8,990 | | 7,399 | | 1,591 |
| Cemetery | | 2,400 | | 2,400 | | 1,960 | | 440 |
| TOTAL EXPENDITURES | | 234,776 | | 236,066 | | 152,082 | | 83,984 |
| REVENUES OVER (UNDER) | | | | | | | | |
| EXPENDITURES | | (120,931) | | (122,221) | | (9,960) | | 112,261 |
| NET CHANGE IN FUND BALANCES | | (120,931) | | (122,221) | | (9,960) | | 112,261 |
| FUND BALANCE, BEGINNING OF YEAR | | 194,042 | | 194,042 | | 194,042 | | |
| FUND BALANCE, END OF YEAR | \$ | 73,111 | <u>\$</u> | 71,821 | \$ | 184,082 | | <u>-</u> |

FIDUCIARY FUND

TAX AGENCY FUND

STATEMENT OF NET ASSETS

| | MARCH 31, 2006 | |
|---------------------------------------|----------------|-------|
| Assets Cash in bank | \$ | 1,896 |
| Liabilities Due to other funds | \$ | 1,896 |

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2006

Receipts

| Tax Collections Interest income | \$ 1,002,769 1,752 |
|---|--------------------------|
| Total cash receipts | 1,004,521 |
| Disbursements | |
| Tax payments to government agencies | 1,003,665 |
| Total cash disbursements | 1,003,665 |
| Total receipts over (under) disbursements | 856 |
| Cash balance at the beginning of the year | 1,040 |
| Cash balance at the end of the year | \$ 1,896 |

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2006

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Orange Township was organized on March 19, 1845, under the applicable laws of the State of Michigan. The Township is governed by a Board of Trustees which consists of Supervisor, Clerk, Treasurer, and two Trustees, and provides the following services: public safety (fire, ambulance), road maintenance, cemetery, public improvements, planning and zoning, and general administrative services.

The financial statements of the Township have been prepared in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP) as applied to government units. The Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) is the accepted standard-setting body for establishing governmental accounting and financial reporting principles. The more significant of the Township's accounting policies are described below:

The Reporting Entity

As required by generally accepted accounting principles, these financial statements present the a financial report on all funds of Orange Township.

Government-wide and Fund Financial Statements

The government-wide financial statements (i.e., the statement of net assets and the statement of activities) report information on all of the nonfiduciary activities of the primary government. For the most part, the effect of interfund activity has been removed from these statements. Governmental activities, which normally are supported by taxes and intergovernmental revenues, are reported separately from business-type activities, which rely to a significant extent on fees and charges for support. Orange Township has no business-type activities or funds.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2006

The statement of activities demonstrates the degree to which the direct expenses of a given function or segments are offset by program revenues. Direct expenses are those that are clearly identifiable with a specific function or segment. Taxes and other items not properly included among program revenues are reported instead as general revenues.

Separate financial statements are provided for government funds and fiduciary funds, even though the latter are excluded from the government-wide financial statements.

Measurement Focus, Basis of Accounting, and Financial Statement Presentation

The government-wide financial statements are reported using the economic resources measurement focus and accrual basis of accounting. Agency funds follow the accrual basis of accounting and they do not follow a measurement focus because they do not report the results of operations (assets equal liabilities). Revenues are recorded when earned and expenses are recorded when liability is incurred, regardless of the timing of related cash flows. Property taxes are recognized as revenues in the year in which they are levied. Grants and similar items are recognized as revenue as soon as all eligibility requirements imposed by the provider have been met.

Governmental fund financial statements are reported using the current financial resources measurement focus and the modified accrual basis of accounting. Revenues are recognized when they become both measurable and available to finance expenditures in the current period. Property taxes, intergovernmental revenue, charges for services and interest associated with the current fiscal period are all considered to be susceptible to accrual. Only the portion of special assessments receivable due within the current fiscal period is considered to be susceptible to accrual. All other revenue items are considered to be measurable and available only when cash is received by the Township. Revenues are considered to be available when they are collectible within the current period or soon enough thereafter to pay liabilities of the current period.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2006

For this purpose, the government considers revenues to be available if they are collected within 60 days of the end of the current fiscal period. Grant revenues are considered to be available when all eligibility requirements imposed by the provider have been met. Expenditures generally are recorded when a liability is incurred, as under accrual accounting. However, debt service and compensated absences expenditures are recorded only when payment is due.

Fund Accounting

The accounts of the Township are organized on the basis of funds, each of which is considered a separate accounting entity. The operations of each fund are accounted for with a separate set of self-balancing accounts that comprises its assets, liabilities, fund equity or net assets, revenues, and expenditures or expenses, as appropriate.

Government resources are allocated to and accounted for in individual funds based upon the purposes for which they are to be spent and the means by which spending activities are controlled.

The Township reports the following major government fund:

General Fund – This fund is the Township's primary operating fund. It accounts for all financial resources of the general government, except those required to be accounted for in another fund.

Additionally, the Township reports the following fund type:

Tax Agency Fund – This fund is used to account for property tax collections from real and personal property owners in Orange Township, and the fund's disbursements to the applicable government entities and agencies.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2006

Private-sector standards of accounting and financial reporting issued prior to December 1, 1989, generally are followed in the government-wide fund financial statements to the extent that those standards do not conflict with or contradict guidance of the Governmental Accounting Standards Board. Governments also have the option of following subsequent private-sector guidance for their business-type activities and enterprise funds, subject to this same limitation. The government has elected not to follow subsequent private-sector guidance in the Statement of Net Assets and the Statement of Activities.

As a general rule, the effect of interfund activity has been eliminated from the government-wide financial statements. Exceptions to this general rule are payments-in-lieu of taxes. Elimination of these charges would distort the direct costs and program revenues reported for the various functions concerned.

Budgets and Budgetary Accounting

Annual budgets are adopted for the general fund on a basis consistent with generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP). The Township follows these procedures in establishing the budgetary data which is reflected in the financial statements:

- 1. The budgets are generated with input from various department heads, the township supervisor, clerk, treasurer, and township trustees.
- 2. Public hearings are conducted to obtain taxpayer comments and recommendations. The operating budgets include proposed expenditures and the means of financing them.
- 3. The budget is legally enacted through the passage of a resolution.
- **4.** Formal budgetary integration is employed as a management control device during the year for all budgeted funds.
- 5. Budget appropriations lapse at fiscal year-end

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2006

- 6. Adoption and amendments of all budgets used by the Township are governed by Public Act 621. Expenditures may not exceed appropriations at the functional level for all funds (the legal level of budgetary control). The appropriations resolutions are based on the projected expenditure budgets by function. Any amendment to the original budget must meet the requirements of Public Act 621. Any revisions that alter the total expenditures of any department must be approved by the Township Board.
- 7. Budgeted amounts are as originally adopted, or as amended by the Township Board. Supplemental budget appropriations were made during the year.
- **8.** Encumbrance accounting is not utilized.

Investments

Investments are stated at fair value.

Restricted Assets

Certain proceeds may be set-aside or restricted for the repayment of debt obligations, a planned capital project, or for any other special purpose. Orange Township has no restrictions on its net assets.

Due To and Due From Other Funds

Interfund receivables and payables arise from interfund transactions and are recorded by all funds affected in the period in which transactions are executed.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2006

Capital Assets

Capital assets, which include property, plant and equipment, are reported in the governmental funds in the government-wide financial statements. The Township does not currently own infrastructure (roads, tunnels, bridges, etc.) Capital assets are defined by the government as assets with an initial, individual cost of more than \$1,000 and an estimated useful life in excess of one year. Such assets are valued at cost where historical records are available and at an estimated historical cost where no historical records exist. Donated capital assets are valued at their estimated market value on the date received.

The costs of normal maintenance and repairs that do not add to the value of the asset or materially extend asset lives are not capitalized. Improvements are capitalized and depreciated over the remaining useful lives of the related capital assets, as applicable.

Depreciation on the capital assets of the primary government is computed using the straight-line method over the following estimated useful lives:

Depreciable

Life-YearsBuilding and structures10 - 40Furniture and equipment5 - 15Building and lot improvements15Trucks and vehicles5Machinery and equipment5 - 15

Property Taxes

Property taxes for the Township are attached as an enforceable lien on property as of December 1 of each year. The December 1 levy is recorded as a revenue during the current fiscal year, and is intended to fund expenditures of the current year. Taxes are levied December 1 and are due without penalty on or before February 14. These winter tax bills include the Township's own property taxes and taxes billed on behalf of the school districts and other entities in Ionia County; summer taxes are collected for the school districts and the County of Ionia.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2006

Real property taxes not collected are returned to the County for collection, which advances the Township 100% for the delinquent taxes. Collection of delinquent personal property taxes remains the responsibility of the Township Treasurer.

Fund Equity

In the fund statements, governmental funds report reservations of fund balance for amounts that are not available for appropriation or are legally restricted by outside parties for use for a specific purpose. Designations of fund balance represent restricted net assets equal to restricted assets less related liabilities. The general fund of Orange Township has designated \$41,887 of its general fund equity for the purchase of new fire equipment for the Berlin-Orange Fire Department.

Risk Management

The Township is exposed to various risks of loss related to torts; theft of, damage to, and destruction of assets; errors and omissions; injuries to employees; and natural disasters. During the year ended March 31, 2006, the Township was covered by a liability and property insurance policy of the Michigan Municipal League Liability and Property Pool.

The insurance limitations are: Property and contents, \$102,345; Liability, \$2,000,000; Crime, \$100,000.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2006

2. CASH AND DEPOSITS AND INVESTMENTS

The cash and deposits, investments and restricted assets for the Township and its component unit are as follows:

| | | Governmental Activities | | Agency | | Total | |
|-------------------|-----|-------------------------|----|--------|----|---------|--|
| Deposits: | | | | | | | |
| Cash and deposits | \$ | 145,935 | \$ | 1,896 | \$ | 147,831 | |
| Investments | | 41,887 | | | | 41,887 | |
| TOTAL | _\$ | 187,822 | \$ | 1,896 | \$ | 189,718 | |

The carrying amount of the Township's deposits at March 31, 2006, was \$187,822. Of these deposits, the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation insures \$141,887 since its liability insurance is limited to \$100,000 per bank. In accordance with the State of Michigan policy limits, these deposits are all deposited in a Michigan bank. All accounts are in the name of the Township and a specific fund or common account. They are recorded in the Township records at fair value.

Statutory Authority

State statutes authorize the Township to invest in:

- 1. Bond securities, other obligations and repurchase agreements of the United States, or an agency or instrumentality of the United States.
- 2. Certificates of deposit, savings accounts, deposit accounts or depository receipts of a qualified financial institution.
- 3. Commercial paper rated at the time of purchase within the two highest classifications established by not less than two standard rating services that matures not more than 270 days after date of purchase.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2006

- 4. Banker's acceptances of United States banks.
- 5. Obligations of the State of Michigan or its political subdivisions that, at the time of purchase are rated as investment grade by at least one standard rating service.
- 6. Mutual funds registered under the Investment Company Act of 1940 with the authority to purchase only investment vehicles that are legal for direct investment by a public corporation.
- 7. External investment pools as authorized by Public Act 20 as amended through December 21, 1997.

Township investments are categorized to give an indication of the level of risk assumed by the entity at year-end. Category 1 includes investments that are insured or registered, or for which the securities are held by the Township or its agent in the Township's name. Category 2 includes uninsured and unregistered investments for which securities are held by the counterparty's trust department or agent in the Township's name. Category 3 includes uninsured and unregistered investments for which the securities are held by the counterparty, or by its trust department or agent but not in the Township's name. Investments held by the Township are reported at fair value.

All deposit accounts of Orange Township are in Category 1 are listed as follows:

| <u>Depository</u> | Account | Amount | t @ 03/31/05 |
|---|--|--------|-----------------------------|
| General Fund: Ionia County National Bank Ionia County National Bank Fifth Third Bank | General Fund checking account General Fund Super Now account Certificates of deposit | \$ | 121,249 24,686 41,887 |
| Tax Agency Fund: Ionia County National Bank | Operating acct - Tax Agency Fund | | 1,896 |
| TOTAL DEP | OSITED FUNDS | | \$ 189,718 |

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2006

3. CAPITAL ASSETS

A summary of changes in Capital Assets follows:

| | Balance April 1, 2005 | Additions | Disposals | Balance March 31, 2006 |
|---|-----------------------------|-----------|-----------|------------------------------|
| Governmental activities: | | | | |
| Capital assets, not being depreciated: | | | | |
| Land | 100 | | | 100 |
| Capital assets being depreciated: | | | | |
| Office equipment | 4,168 | 2,058 | | 6,226 |
| Fire building | 20,000 | | | 20,000 |
| Fire equipment | 273,500 | | | 273,500 |
| Total assets being depreciated | 297,668 | 2,058 | | 299,726 |
| Less accumulated depreciation for: | | | | |
| Office equipment | 2,286 | 770 | | 3,056 |
| Fire building | 16,250 | 500 | | 16,750 |
| Fire equipment | 125,066 | 14,160 | | 139,226 |
| Total | 143,602 | 15,430 | | 159,032 |
| Total capital assets, being depreciated net | 154,066 | | | 140,694 |
| Governmental activities capital assets, net | 154,166 | | | 140,794 |

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2006

Depreciation expense was charged to functions/programs of the general government as follows:

| Fire department equipment | \$ 14,160 |
|---------------------------|--------------|
| Fire department building | 500 |
| Clerk | 266 |
| Treasurer | <u>504</u> |
| | |
| Total depreciation | \$ 15,430 |

4. CONTRIBUTORY PENSION PLAN

Orange Township contributes to a group pension plan through Edward Jones. All elected officials are eligible. The Township contributes 17% of each official's compensation. No contributions are made by the participants. During the year ended March 31, 2006, the Township contributed \$3,714 for wages paid from January 1, 2005, through December 31, 2005. For the fiscal year ended March 31, 2006, the Township has an accrued pension liability of \$943 based on compensation paid for January through March, 2006.

5. LITIGATION

In the normal course of its activities, the Township has become a party in various legal actions, including property tax assessment appeals. Management of the Township is of the opinion that the outcome of such actions will not have a material effect on the financial position of the Township and, therefore, has not reflected loss reserves in the financial statements.

6. ESCROW ACCOUNTS

As of March 31, 2006, Orange Township has one escrow account

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2006

7. DUE FROM (TO) OTHER FUNDS

Amounts due from (to) other funds representing interfund receivable and payable balances at March 31, 2006, are detailed as follows:

| | <u>Due from</u> | Due to |
|-----------------|-----------------|----------|
| General Fund | - | \$ 1,896 |
| Tax Agency Fund | \$ 1,896 | - |

[&]quot;Due to" and "due from" balances represent amounts in the tax-agency fund which may be transferred into the general fund.

GENERAL FUND

The General Fund is used to account for government resources that are not required legally or by sound financial management to be recorded in another fund. Revenues in this fund are derived primarily from general property taxes, fees for services, interest, state shared revenues, grants, and intergovernmental revenues. General operating expenditures of the Township are accounted for in this fund, including Township Administration, Public Safety, Public Works, Planning and Zoning, and Cemetery.

The legal level of budgetary control of the General Fund is at the activity level, as reflected on the following Schedule of Revenue, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balance – Budget and Actual.

ORANGE TOWNSHIP STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES - BUDGET AND ACTUAL GENERAL FUND

FOR THE YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2006

| _ | BUNGET | ED AMOUNTS | | VARIANCE WITH FINAL POSITIVE | |
|---------------------------|---------|----------------|---------|------------------------------------|--|
| | | ORIGINAL FINAL | | (NEGATIVE) | |
| REVENUES: | | <u> </u> | ACTUAL | • | |
| Property taxes | | | | | |
| Current property taxes | 33,700 | 33,700 | 39,433 | 5,733 | |
| Delinquent property taxes | 3,000 | 3,000 | 2,970 | (30 | |
| Special Assessment | 5,500 | 5,500 | 5,879 | 379 | |
| Total taxes | 42,200 | 42,200 | 48,282 | 6,082 | |
| State sources | | | | | |
| State revenue sharing | 62,000 | 62,000 | 70,240 | 8,240 | |
| State fire protection | 800 | _800 | 0 | (800 | |
| · | 62,800 | 62,800 | 70,240 | 7,440 | |
| Charges for services: | | | | | |
| Licenses and Permits | 1,345 | 1,345 | 2,285 | 940 | |
| Ambulance fees | 0 | 0 | 1,136 | 1,130 | |
| Telecom | 4,000 | 4,000 | 3,204 | (79 | |
| Total fee revenue | 5,345 | 5,345 | 6,625 | 1,28 | |
| Investment revenue: | | | | | |
| Interest earnings | 1,500 | 1,500 | 6,126 | 4,620 | |
| Other revenue | 2,000 | 2,000 | 10,849 | 8,84 | |
| TOTAL REVENUES | 113,845 | 113,845 | 142,122 | 28,27 | |
| EXPENDITURES | | | | | |
| General government | | | | | |
| Supervisor | 10,600 | 11,233 | 10,748 | 48 | |
| Elections | 3,300 | 3,359 | 307 | 3,05 | |
| Assessor | 8,000 | 8,150 | 8,150 | | |
| Clerk | 18,989 | 19,341 | 16,944 | 2,39 | |
| Board of review | 1,065 | 1,065 | 452 | 61 | |
| Treasurer | 12,805 | 12,805 | 11,293 | 1,51 | |
| Townhall | 16,400 | 16,400 | 3,894 | 12,50 | |
| Audit & legal | 4,800 | 4,800 | 947 | 3,85 | |
| Insurance | 3,500 | 3,500 | 3,277 | 22 | |
| Total general government | 79,459 | 80,653 | 56,012 | 24,64 | |

ORANGE TOWNSHIP STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES - BUDGET AND ACTUAL GENERAL FUND

FOR THE YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2006

| | BUDGETE | ED AMOUNTS | | VARIANCE WITH FINAL POSITIVE | |
|---------------------------------|-----------|------------|---------|------------------------------------|--|
| | ORIGINAL | FINAL | ACTUAL | (NEGATIVE) | |
| Legislative | 6,070 | 6,156 | 5,081 | 1,075 | |
| Public safety | | | | | |
| Fire department contributions | 83,000 | 83,000 | 51,000 | 32,000 | |
| Ambulance | 10,000 | 10,000 | 5,296 | 4,704 | |
| Total public safety | 93,000 | 93,000 | 56,296 | 36,704 | |
| Public works | | | | | |
| Roads | 40,867 | 40,867 | 23,497 | 17,370 | |
| Drains | 4,000 | 4,000 | 1,837 | 2, <u>163</u> | |
| Total Public Works | 44,867 | 44,867 | 25,334 | 19,533 | |
| Planning and zoning | | | | | |
| Zoning administrator | 7,000 | 7,000 | 6,042 | 958 | |
| Zoning board of appeals | 710 | 710 | 355 | 355 | |
| Planning commission | 1,270 | 1,280 | 1,002 | <u>278</u> | |
| Total Planning and Zoning | 8,980 | 8,990 | 7,399 | 1,591 | |
| Cemetery | 2,400 | 2,400 | 1,960 | 440 | |
| Contingency | 10,000 | 8,710 | 0 | 8,710 | |
| TOTAL EXPENDITURES | 234,776 | 236,066 | 152,082 | 83,984 | |
| REVENUES OVER (UNDER) | | | | | |
| EXPENDITURES | (120,931) | (122,221) | (9,960) | 112,261 | |
| NET CHANGE IN FUND BALANCES | (120,931) | (122,221) | (9,960) | 112,261 | |
| FUND BALANCE, BEGINNING OF YEAR | 194,042 | 194,042 | 194,042 | - | |
| FUND BALANCE, END OF YEAR | 73,111 | 71,821 | 184,082 | - | |

TAX AGENCY FUND

The Orange Township Tax Agency Fund collects all personal and real property taxes assessed on real and personal property in the township. It disburses these funds to the appropriate governmental entities including school districts, the County of Ionia, and the Township's general fund.

TAX AGENCY FUNDS

RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS BY MONTH

FOR THE YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2006

| PERIOD | OPENING BALANCE | RECEIPTS | INTEREST | DISBURSE- MENTS | CLOSING BALANCE |
|--------------|--------------------|--------------|----------|--------------------|--------------------|
| APRIL 05 | \$ 1,039.63 | \$ 3,043.45 | \$ 9.67 | \$ 3,043.45 | \$ 1,049.30 |
| MAY 05 | 1,049.30 | | 10.77 | | 1,060.07 |
| JUNE 05 | 1,060.07 | 9,666.93 | 10.46 | | 10,737.46 |
| JULY 05 | 10,737.46 | 33,536.06 | 30.83 | 43,420.80 | 883.55 |
| AUGUST 05 | 883.55 | 37,750.72 | 61.24 | 36,719.73 | 1,975.78 |
| SEPTEMBER 05 | 1,975.78 | 152,001.34 | 200.87 | 147,371.00 | 6,806.99 |
| OCTOBER 05 | 6,806.99 | 3,988.25 | 24.34 | 1,725.36 | 9,094.22 |
| NOVEMBER 05 | 9,094.22 | 1,470.51 | 26.87 | 3,103.28 | 7,488.32 |
| DECEMBER 05 | 7,488.32 | 385,196.47 | 219.87 | 387,570.15 | 5,334.51 |
| JANUARY 06 | 5,334.51 | 116,368.62 | 131.26 | 54,235.14 | 67,599.25 |
| FEBRUARY 06 | 67,599.25 | 239,510.14 | 432.00 | 325,066.56 | (17,525.17) |
| MARCH 06 | (17,525.17) | 20,236.74 | 593.60 | 1,409.21 | 1,895.96 |
| TOTALS | | 1,002,769.23 | 1,751.78 | 1,003,664.68 | |

Lawrence Tiejema, PC Certified Public Accountant

1187 Hawley Highway Saranac, MI 48881

Phone: 616-642-0384 Fax: 616-642-0610 Email: <u>tiej@iserv.net</u>

REPORT ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER FINANCIAL REPORTING AND ON COMPLIANCE AND OTHER MATTERS BASED ON AN AUDIT OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS PERFORMED IN ACCORDANCE WITH GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS

September 25, 2006

The Township Board Orange Township Ionia County, Michigan

I have audited the financial statements of the governmental activities and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Township of Orange, State of Michigan, as of and for the year ended March 31, 2006, which collectively comprise Orange Township's basic financial statements and have issued a report thereon dated September 25, 2006. I conducted my audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States.

Internal Control over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing my audit, I considered the Orange Township's internal control over financial reporting in order to determine my auditing procedures for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the financial statements and not to provide an opinion on the internal control over financial reporting. My consideration of the internal control over financial reporting would not necessarily disclose all matters in the internal control that might be material weaknesses. A material weakness is a reportable condition in which the design or operation of one or more of the internal control components does not reduce to a relatively low level the risk that misstatements caused by error or fraud in amounts that would be material in relation to the financial statements being audited may occur and not be detected within a timely period by employees in the normal course of performing their assigned functions.

I noted no matters involving the internal control over financial reporting and its operation that I consider to be material weaknesses.

Compliance and Other Matters

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether Orange Township's financial statements are free of material misstatement, I performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements, compliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the determination of financial statement amounts. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of my audit, and accordingly, I do not express such an opinion. The results of my tests disclosed no instances of noncompliance or other matters that are required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards*.

This report is intended solely for the information and use of the township board officers, bond and credit holders, and pass-through entities and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties.

Lawrence Tiejema, PC.

September 25, 2006

Lawrence Tiejema, PC

Certified Public Accountant 1187 Hawley Highway Saranac, MI 48881

Phone: 616-642-0384 Fax: 616-642-0610 Email: tiej@iserv.net

September 27, 2006

Orange Township Board % Mary McNally, Clerk 1310 East David Highway Ionia, MI 48846

To the Board of Orange Township:

You may refer to my report on internal control over financial reporting and compliance with laws and established accounting procedures. The letter states that I noted no matters involving internal control of financial reporting that would be considered material weaknesses. The following comments are not made to express an opinion on internal control but to point out some controls and procedures that are serving Orange Township well.

- (1) The Treasurer keeps the bank records on Quickbooks and reconciles them monthly. The use of Quickbooks provides an excellent record of all revenue transactions which can be traced to the receipt books and bank statements.
- (2) The Clerk's record of expense transactions is very complete and allows her to access the support documents of any tranaction in a very efficient manner.
- (3) The supervisor and other members of the board are active in monitoring the budget to actual expenditures. The financial planning of the Supervisor provided good background for his Management Discussion and Analysis.

In addition, I noted two issues regarding revenue and related-party transactions that could improve the accuracy of your financial records.

(1) The revenue records of the Clerk did not match the revenue records of the Treasurer. While the revenue totals for the general fund were in agreement, many revenue account totals of the Clerk were in error. This can be corrected by having the treasurer provide the Clerk with a copy of all receipts and bank statements so that the clerk can reconcile her records to them.

(2) The Clerk did not have complete records of the Berlin-Orange Fire Department even though Orange Township is responsible for providing 50 % of the funds for the debt service and operational expenses of the fire department. The Orange Township Board should designate a person who will maintain a copy of all the pertinent records of the Berlin-Orange Fire Department including the following: (1) Copy of the debt instruments; (2) Copy of the amortization schedules on debt outstanding including records of the current balance due; (3) A periodic list of all bills for operational expense; (4) Copy of the most recent income statement. The maintenance and review of all pertinent financial documents of the Berlin-Orange Township is a vital function of the Orange Township Board. It provides the internal control that protects the financial resources of the Township while providing the information needed when citizens make legitimate inquiries.

If you have any questions regarding these comments and suggestions, please contact me.

Sincerely,

Larry Tiejema, CPA

Larry Tiejens